

Message Text

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INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY
USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
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TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: JULY 14 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR

1. BERNARD GWERTZMAN OF NEW YORK TIMES AND PETER KUMPA OF
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BALTIMORE SUN STATED THAT SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE
AND SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI GROMYKO FAILED TO RE-
SOLVE TWO OUTSTANDING ISSUES OBSTRUCTING SALT TWO AGREEMENT.
HOWEVER, BOTH TEXTS REPORT THAT NEW IDEAS WERE PUT FORTH
AND "WILL SERVE AS A BASIS FOR FURTHER NARROWING THE DIF-
FERENCES BETWEEN US." THE TWO DIPLOMATS WILL MEET AGAIN IN
SEPTEMBER DURING THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY SES-

SION. STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF A NEW AGREEMENT, THE TWO SIDES REPORT THAT PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE. PRIMARY FOCUS OF THE TWO DAYS OF MEETINGS WAS ON TLO SIDES DEVELOPING NEW MISSILES SYSTEMS OR AT LEAST TESTING NEW SYSTEMS. AN AIDE TO VANCE PREDICTED THAT AN AGREEMENT COULD POSSIBLY BE REACHED IN TWO MORE VANCE-GROMYKO MEETINGS.

2. RICHARD BURT OF NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED THAT WHITE HOUSE HAS AGREED TO ASK CONGRESS FOR FUNDS FOR A NEW MEDIUM RANGE BOMBER AND IMPROVED AIR DEFENSES IN ORDER TO GAIN SUPPORT

OF JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF FOR SALT TWO AGREEMENT. ACCORDING TO TEXT, WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS SAID THAT GEN. DAVID JONES, CHAIRMAN OF JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, HAS AGREED TO COMPROMISE. SOVIET UNION HAS REFUSED TO ACCEPT RESTRICTIONS OF THEIR BACKFIRE BOMBER EXCEPT TO OFFER ASSURANCES THAT WEAPON WOULD NOT BE USED AGAINST UNITED STATES. JCS HAS INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD NOT SUPPORT SALT TWO WITHOUT SUCH RESTRICTIONS. HOWEVER, OFFICIALS NOW SAY THAT JCS IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT SEPARATE ACCORD ON BACKFIRE WHICH WOULD LIMIT RATE OF PRODUCTION. OFFICIALS CONTEND THAT THIS WILL NOT ONLY EXPEDITE REACHING AGREEMENT, BUT ALSO EASE SENATE RATIFICATION OF TREATY TIMES REPORTED.

3. IN A COLUMN PUBLISHED IN WASHINGTON POST, SYNDICATED COLUMNISTS ROLAND VANS AND ROBERT NOVAK ASSERT SENATOR UNCLASSIFIED

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HENRY JACKSON (D-WA) IS PLEADING WITH CARTER TO "CARRY A BIGGER STICK" IN HIS DEALINGS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THE COLUMN ALSO CRITICIZES VANCE FOR POSSIBLY GIVING CONCESSIONS TO SOVIET UNION IN GENEVA THIS WEEK DURING SALT TWO DISCUSSIONS INSTEAD OF TURNING OFF CERTAIN DEALS WITH THE SOVIETS SUCH AS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS AS A PROTEST TO TRIALS OF TWO SOVIET DISSIDENTS.

4. IN A SPECIAL TO NEW YORK TIMES, HEDRICK SMITH SAID THAT CARTER IS "PERPLEXED IN HIS HUNT FOR THE RIGHT FORMULA FOR DEALING WITH THE SOVIET UNION." SMITH CONTENDS THAT ONE OF THE MOST PERSISTENT PROBLEMS IS CARTER'S ATTEMPT TO RETAIN DETENTE WHILE AT THE SAME TIME APPEARING STRONG AND TOUGH WHEN SOVIETS SEEM UNDETERRED BY CARTER'S PROTESTS OF SOVIET POLICY. SMITH POINTS OUT THAT CARTER HAS BEEN UNABLE TO RESTRAIN SOVIET-CUBAN ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA OR PREVENT TRIALS OF SOVIET DISSIDENTS AND, SAID SMITH, THE REASON IS THAT CARTER HAS "NEVER SUCCEEDED IN DEVELOPING A REAL BARGAINING GIVE AND TAKE RELATIONSHIP WITH LEONID BREZHNEV AND HIS POLITBURO COLLEAGUES.

5. IN AN OP-ED COLUMN PUBLISHED IN CHICAGO TRIBUNE

SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY CONTENDS THAT SALT TWO TREATY BEING NEGOTIATED ESTABLISHES EQUAL OVERALL LIMITS ON THE NUMBERS OF WEAPONS PERMITTED ON BOTH SIDES AND THAT SENATOR HENRY JACKSON'S ASSERTION THAT PENDING SALT TWO AGREEMENT IS UNEQUAL IS BASED ON HIS PICKING THREE PROVISIONS OF A DRAFT TREATY THAT IS OVER 50 PAGES IN LENGTH AND "MISCONSTRUING THEIR EFFECT ON NATIONAL SECURITY." AFTER SPECIFICALLY NOTING THE SECTIONS IN THE TREATY JACKSON REFERS TO KENNEDY POINTS OUT THAT NOTHING IN TREATY PREVENTS U.S. FROM MAINTAINING ADVANTAGE IN MISSILE ACCURACY OR DEPLOYING A NEW ICBM. KENNEDY ALSO SAID THAT ASSESSING SALT TWO ON THE BASIS OF PROVISIONS JACKSON CITES "MIS-

REPRESENTS THE STRATEGIC BALANCE." THE COLUMN STRESSED UNCLASSIFIED

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U.S. SUPERIORITY IN SAC FORCE AND IN SLBMS, AS WELL AS STATING THAT SOVIETS HAVE NO EFFECTIVE DEFENSE AGAINST AIR-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILE. HOWEVER, KENNEDY CONCLUDES THAT NEITHER SIDE HAS STRATEGIC SUPERIORITY -- "STRATEGIC EQUALITY PREVAILS", WHICH "WILL STRENGTHEN OUR NATIONAL SECURITY AND HELP TO REDUCE THE DANGER OF NUCLEAR WAR." CHRISTOPHER

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